

Message

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Report Highlights

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Highlights

LEADING THE NEWS

Farm Bill Tops Enviro-Energy Fall Legislative List: Fall 2018 Hill Watch

By Chuck McCutcheon

Congress is expected to hammer out details on a broad bill addressing agriculture-related programs in the weeks ahead—but most other environment- and energy-related legislation is likely to fall by the election-year wayside.

Fossil-Fuels Backer Kyl Returns to Senate to Fill McCain's Seat

By Dean Scott

An Arizona governor's pick to fill the seat held by the late Sen. John McCain (R) will return to the Senate an ardent backer of fossil fuels and opponent of environmental regulation.

Pruitt Security Cost Soared Without Justification: EPA Watchdog

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

The EPA failed to properly justify the around-the-clock security protection provided to former administrator Scott Pruitt, driving costs to \$3.5 million in just 11 months, the agency's internal watchdog says.

Companies Could Line Up to Take Anti-Carbon Plunge

By Bobby Magill

When companies, investors, and cities lead on climate change, national governments will follow. At least that's the hope of U.N. organizers of next week's Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco.

Court Questions Monsanto's Small Size of Dicamba Studies

By Tiffany Stecker

When Monsanto Co. sought to gain approval for its new herbicide XtendiMax, the company submitted a trove of scientific studies to back up a claim that the new product, unlike its predecessors, would not evaporate off fields and settle on neighboring crops.

Dire Climate Change Warnings Cut from Trump Power-Plant Proposal

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

Warnings about potentially severe consequences of climate change were deleted from a Trump administration plan to weaken curbs on power plant emissions during a White House review.

TODAY'S NEWS

Massachusetts Emissions Rules Apply to Power Plants, Court Says (1)

By Adrienne Appel

Massachusetts electric power producers are subject to the state's carbon emissions caps, the state's highest court ruled Sept. 4.

New Jersey Sets Strictest Limit Nationwide for Fluorinated Chemical

By Sylvia Carignan

New Jersey set the lowest enforceable limit in the country for a fluorinated chemical, establishing a precedent that will capture the attention of other states and the U.S. EPA.

Macron Names Former Green Lawmaker as French Energy Minister

By Helene Fouquet and Francois de Beaupuy

Francois de Rugy, a former Green lawmaker and career politician, was named France's energy and environment minister on Sept. 4.

Nuclear Has to Use Climate Crisis to Justify High Cost, MIT Says

By Jonathan Tirone

Nuclear energy can't compete on cost with cheap natural gas or renewables and therefore needs the help of policy makers who are willing to promote its low-emission power generation as a way to fight climate change, according to a landmark new study.

There's a Plug-Free Way to Fill the World With Electric Vehicles

By Anna Hirtenstein, Brian Eckhouse and Elisabeth Behrmann

Umer Anwer stops on the street near Tesla Inc.'s Brooklyn showroom and grabs his smartphone. He is looking for a spot to charge his electric car, and the Tesla charging plugs won't work with the Nissan Leaf he's driving. In fact, he would prefer not to bother with a plug at all.

Tesla's Cobalt-Light Batteries Could Have Cost Advantage

By Anthony Palazzo

Tesla Inc.'s lead in battery technology gives it a cost advantage that could last for several years and help the U.S. electric-car maker face down an onslaught

of new competition, according to new research from Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

Preservative Pinch Shows Need for Options, Supply Chain Preparation

By Pat Rizzuto

An ongoing global shortage of a chemical used in inks, disinfectants, cleaning, and many other products shows why manufacturers need backup plans to ensure they can meet their commercial obligations, an attorney told Bloomberg Environment.

U.K's Biggest Energy Suppliers Losing Customers to Startups

By Rachel Morison

The latest threat to the dominance of Britain's six biggest energy suppliers is coming from small technology companies that automatically switch consumers to the cheapest deal.

Wind Blows Away Competition in Brazil Future Energy Auction

By Michael Kepp

Wind power blew away the competition in Brazil's second auction for future energy supplies this year with higher-than-expected amounts sold, despite sluggish economic growth.

Brazil Prosecutors to Appeal Glyphosate Ruling in Latest Go-Round

By Michael Kepp

Federal prosecutors said they plan to appeal a court decision overturning suspension of the use of a popular weedkiller in the latest chapter of Brazil's soy story.

Germany Kicking Off Home Solar Battery Boom as Prices Drop

By Brian Parkin

Solar battery sales in Germany are poised to boom as prices for the facilities continue to drop and homeowners turn to generate their own electricity to shield against rising power prices, solar lobby BSW said.

China Solar Giants Shrug Off Market Fall, Chase Growth Plans

By Bloomberg News

The top solar manufacturers in China are boosting production capacity, betting higher output will help them seize a bigger chunk of the global market that is set for its first-ever annual contraction.

Climate Talks Enter 'Critical' Stage in Bangkok, UN Envoy Says

By Natnicha Chuwiruch and Mathew Carr

Envoys at a special round of global climate talks are nearing a crucial stage in their effort to flesh out the landmark Paris agreement, the United Nations diplomat helping organize the meeting said.

No Developers Picked in Japan's Solar Auction as Bids Too High

By Chisaki Watanabe

Japan didn't pick any developer in its latest solar auction as they had all offered bids above the maximum rate set by the government of 15.5 yen (14 cents) per kilowatt hour, which wasn't disclosed to them beforehand.

WEEKEND WRAPUP

You May Have to Walk More to Grab an Uber Under California Bill

By Emily C. Dooley

Uber Technologies Inc. and Lyft Inc. customers in California may have to walk a few blocks to meet their driver or share a ride with a stranger under a bill heading to the governor that calls on the ride-hailing companies to cut their overall vehicle emissions.

Water Tax, Fees Dammed in California Legislature

By Emily C. Dooley and Joyce E. Cutler

California lawmakers failed to advance bills that would have created an annual multimillion-dollar fund to help nearly 1 million people in California who lack access to safe drinking water.

Pebble Mine Stirs Concerns About Fish, Wildlife, Livelihoods

By Alan Kovski

Pebble Mine's economic and social impacts, both good and bad, should be considered along with effects on salmon fishing in Alaska if the proposed gold and copper mine goes ahead, members of the public said in comments to the Army Corps of Engineers.

Culling of Yellowstone Grizzlies Necessary, Hunters Say

By Tripp Baltz

A judge's decision to halt the first hunt of trophy grizzlies near Yellowstone National Park was wrong-headed, Wyoming big-game hunters and outfitters said Aug. 31.

Pool Motor Efficiency Standards Make a Late Summer Splash

By Rebecca Kern

Summer heat means pool time is plentiful, and the Energy Department is aiming to make the pumps running the 8 million pools in the U.S. more efficient.



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